

## Panel backs new and increased fees

By Ildefonso Ortiz  
*Tiempo Nuevo Editor*

The Student Services Fee Advisory Committee has voted to recommend an increase in three existing fees and add 21 new fees for the Fall 2003 semester.

The committee made its recommendation during a meeting Nov. 14 in the Student Union. After advancing to the Student Affairs Partnership Committee, the proposal was scheduled for review by the Southmost Union Junior College District board of trustees at its Nov. 25 meeting.

Two compulsory fees--Designated Tuition and Graduate Tuition Differential--are going up.

"Compulsory fees ... are charged to all students and must be approved by legislative action," said Hilda Silva, vice

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## In the lion's den



ALEJANDRO RIVERA/COLLEGIAN

*Gloria Rivera, a junior early childhood education major, holds a stuffed lion as she talks to third-graders at Cromack Elementary School before reading a book titled "Lenny the Fun Loving Lion." Rivera and other UTB/TSC students participated in the National Children's Book Bee as part of their final presentation project for the course, Teaching Fine Arts in Elementary, taught by Sally Trenfield.*

# Pact reached on club accounts

By John Strubelt  
*Collegian Editor*

The process for student organizations withdrawing money from campus accounts has become much easier.

At a meeting among Interim Director of Internal Audits Norma Ramos, Vice President for Business Affairs Rosemary Martinez, Director of Student Activities Vince Solis and Vice President for Student Affairs Hilda Silva on Nov. 20, it was decided to reduce the number of signatures required on student

organizational fund vouchers to three--club president, treasurer and adviser. Previously, signatures from the dean of students and the director of Student Activities were required to withdraw funds.

Silva charged Solis to change the forms immediately. Silva also said clubs would be polled to determine whether to remove the need for the signature of student organizations' presidents.

Also, student organizations will be given a choice as to whether they wish to open

accounts off campus. According to Martinez, off campus accounts are in accordance with rules of the UT System board of regents. Silva, Solis and members of the Student Government Association had expressed interest in the idea of off campus accounts.

"As long as whatever's recommended is in accordance with the regents' rules, we certainly don't have any problem at all making changes to the process [for withdrawing funds]," Martinez said. "It's

really not up to the Business Office to make that decision, it's really up to Student Affairs to make that decision, and we'll support whatever they'd like to do, provided that it's within the regents' rules."

SGA President Edward Camarillo told The Collegian that Solis would poll student organizations about off campus accounts at the next Inner Club Council meeting in the spring.

Meanwhile, the Division of Business Affairs will look into

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Resident urges board to learn 'needs of the people'

A Brownsville resident is urging the Southmost Union Junior College District board of trustees to leave their "ivory towers" and find out what the "needs of the people" are.

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University works toward communication program

UTB/TSC administrators and faculty are working to get a bachelor's degree in communication program approved for next fall.

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Lucio puts down chalk and takes up clubs

UTB/TSC golf coach Jessie Lucio recently had a chance to shine outside coaching. He participated in the Texas Senior Open, tying for 39th place. The tournament, which is part of the Southern Texas Professional Golf Association, took place at the South Padre Island Golf Course Nov. 13-15.



# 924 to graduate Dec. 21

By Josie Ruiz  
*Collegian Online Editor*

A total of 924 UTB/TSC students will receive diplomas during two separate commencement ceremonies set for Dec. 21 at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. The university's two colleges and three schools will confer the degrees at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m., respectively.

Students who completed their studies during the summer semesters will be receiving their degrees along with the students who completed their studies this semester, Registrar Albert Barreda said.

Ben Reyna, director of the U.S. Marshals Service, will deliver the keynote address. Reyna received an associate of arts degree from Texas Southmost College and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Pan American University. He became Brownsville's police chief in 1995 and served for six years.

The College of Liberal Arts and the College of Science, Mathematics and Technology will graduate a total of 468 students. Of these students, 140 will receive an associate's degree; 81 will

receive certificates; 232 will receive a bachelor's degree; and 15 will receive master's degrees.

The School of Business, the School of Education and the School of Health Sciences will graduate a total of 456 students. Of these, 97 will receive associate's, 63 will receive certificates, 182 will receive bachelor's, and 114 will receive master's.

Asked if there were any new programs from which students will be graduated for the first time, Barreda said, "No, not for the first time."

Officials expect Spring 2003's enrollment to be consistent with this semester.

"We don't know the number of midyear high school graduates that will be entering ... we expect somewhere between 150 or 200 students," Barreda said. "[The total] should be around 9,800 students. It's rather strange how enrollment isn't so easy to figure out. It used to be that the estimated spring semester was lower than the fall, and that's no longer the case ... it's a lot more consistent with the enrollment figures of the fall semesters simply because we have a lot more midyear high school graduates that enter college."

## Briefs

The **Senior Thesis II** art exhibit opens at 7:30 tonight and closes Dec. 13 in the **Richardson Art Gallery**. Admission is free.

**Händel's "Messiah,"** performed by the UTB/TSC and Brownsville School District Community Chorale and Orchestra, is scheduled for 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Jacob Brown Auditorium. Soloists include Antonio Briseño, tenor; Andrew Lenz, bass; Amy Hymel Brownlow, soprano; and Joan Sachs Wiley, alto. Tickets are \$20, \$10, \$8 and \$5. For more information, call the Fort Brown Memorial Center at 983-7944.

**Jurate Kazickas** will discuss women who covered Vietnam on the radio program **"Society Under Fire,"** which airs at 7:30 p.m. Thursday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday on KMBH-FM (88.9). Kazickas, a former newspaper reporter and the author several books on women's history, is the contributor of the chapter "These Hills Called Khe Sanh" in the edited volume "War Torn: Stories of War from the Women Reporters Who Covered Vietnam." **David Pearson**, associate professor of sociology, hosts the program.

The **Financial Assistance Office** will be offering limited services through Sunday due to computer upgrades. For more information, call 544-8277.

The university is accepting toy and cash donations for its 11th annual **Toy Drive**, which will benefit children ages 3 to 5 from **Longoria Elementary**. Collection representatives and sites are as follows: Martha Espinoza, Duffey Plaza; Norma Vera, SET-B Q2.342; Mary Helen Cuellar, Education Building Room 8; Olga Garcia, Tandy Hall 121; Rosie Edwards, Library 211-A; Maria Yanez and Diana Arredondo, Life and Health Sciences Rooms 2.402 and 2.436; Mary Beth Deese, South Hall 246; Mari Espinoza, Physical Plant; Pilar Saldivar, Gorgas Hall; Cynthia Herrera and Maria Ruth Torres, Tandy Hall 100; and Cynthia Mena, Student Union Room 210. For more information, call 544-8240.

Tickets are on sale for the **Holiday Social** for staff and faculty. The dance will take place from 8 p.m. to midnight Dec. 12 at the Student Union's Gran Salon and will feature music provided by a disc jockey, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Attire is semiformal. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from the following: Ronnie Zamora, Gorgas Hall C100; Karen Fuss-Sommer, Life and Health Sciences Building 2.520; Norma Vera, SET-B 2.342; Pilar Saldivar, Gorgas Hall; Emilia Taylor, North Hall 109; Liza Salinas, Tandy Hall 107; Lucy Willis, South Hall 212; and Griselda Mendoza, Gorgas Hall.

The Southmost Union Junior College District **board of trustees** will meet at 5:30 p.m. Dec. 19 in the Gorgas Hall Board Room.

**Phi Theta Kappa** will meet 11 a.m. Saturday in the Student Union's Jacaranda Room. The organization also has scheduled an **induction ceremony** in the union's Gran Salon on Dec. 19. For more information, send an e-mail to janieure-na@hotmail.com.

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## The Collegian Spring 2003 Publication Schedule

Issue No.	Publication Date	Ad Deadline
15	Monday, Jan. 20	Monday, Jan. 13
16	Monday, Jan. 27	Monday, Jan. 20
17	Monday, Feb. 3	Monday, Jan. 27
18	Monday, Feb. 10*	Monday, Feb. 3
19	Monday Feb. 17	Monday, Feb. 10
20	Monday, Feb. 24	Monday Feb. 17
21	Monday, March 3**	Monday, Feb. 24
22	Monday, March 17	Monday, March 3
23	Monday March 24	Monday, March 17
24	Monday, March 31	Monday March 24
25	Monday, April 7***	Monday, March 31
26	Monday, April 14	Monday, April 7
27	Monday, April 21	Monday, April 14
28	Monday, April 28****	Monday, April 21

\*Valentine's Day issue

\*\*Spring Break issue

\*\*\*Bougainvillea issue

\*\*\*\*Final exams/Commencement issue

# Resident urges board to learn 'needs of the people'

By John Strubelt  
*Collegian Editor*

A Brownsville resident is urging the Southmost Union Junior College District board of trustees to leave their "ivory towers" and find out what the "needs of the people" are.

Manuel Hernandez addressed the board during its Nov. 25 meeting. He called for the board to implement single-member districts, saying "what the people want would be better served" by them.

"Today we have too much representation on the north part of the district," Hernandez said. "Three members live in the same single-member district in the City of Brownsville. ... I'm appealing to you all, you all need to be better related to the community, especially the barrio. I think some of you people are on ivory towers and do not know today ... the politics involved and what the needs are of the people. I'm begging you, if you say Texas Southmost College is a community college, then act like it."

Hernandez also told the board that he

had written a letter to the board of regents of the University of Texas System "because I believe that laws were broken in the political activity on campus."

Board chairman Chester Gonzalez thanked Hernandez for his comments.

Susan Ritter, chair of the criminal justice department, and Harry O. White Jr., lecturer for the criminal justice department briefed the board about the criminal justice forensics lab. UTB/TSC received a grant of approximately \$150,000 from the state of Texas Governor's Office Criminal Justice Division for this forensics lab.

Farhat Iftekaruddin, dean of the College of Liberal Arts, explained UTB/TSC's obligations for this grant:

--to train 80 individuals employed in the area of law enforcement from Cameron County

--to create a forensic lab

--to maintain and operate the lab for individuals in the field of law enforce-

ment

--to create a criminal investigation library

--to maintain contracts with law enforcement agencies and the district attorney's office

--to identify criminal investigation needs that our lab can provide

Since last summer, 37 BISD security and police officers, four officers in the Cameron County Sheriff's Department, two officers from the Port Isabel Police Department, two officers from the South Padre Island Police Department, two officers from the Indian Lake Police Department, two officers from UTB/TSC Campus Police and 31 students have received law enforcement training.

Ritter explained the purchases that have been made so far with the grant. A total of \$55,087.34 has been spent on such items as lab tables, computers, cameras, camcorders, microscopes, crime scene processing kits, a TV and

VCR, etc.

Iftekaruddin described criminal forensics as "a collection of evidence, interpreting that evidence, fingerprints, footprints and detection of those through a mechanical process, and then to write up the investigative report."

Trustee David Oliveira made several recommendations to the board on behalf of the Business Affairs Partnership Committee.

Oliveira moved for the approval of a change order for the Student Union, adding \$41,688 for the addition of wood corbels at the ballroom, custom hardware for hand carved ballroom doors, tile in plaster weave pattern on the west side of the ballroom, repainting by the hand stair tower ceiling, irrigation and hydromulch at areas east of the Student Union, and the addition of five parking spaces for the handi-

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## The Collegian

*The Collegian is the student newspaper serving the University of Texas and Texas Southmost College. The newspaper is widely distributed on a campus of more than 9,000 students, and is a member of the Texas Intercollegiate Press Association.*

Collegian Editor ... John Strubelt

Collegian Online Editor ... Josie Ruiz

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Final Exam Schedule Fall 2002		
Class Meeting Times	Exam Dates	Exam
<b>MWF Classes</b> 8 to 8:50 a.m. 9 to 9:50 a.m. 10 to 10:50 a.m. 11 to 11:50 a.m. 12 to 12:50 p.m. 1 to 1:50 p.m. 2 to 2:50 p.m. 3 to 3:50 p.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 11 Friday, Dec. 13 Monday, Dec. 16 Wednesday, Dec. 11 Friday, Dec. 13 Monday, Dec. 16 Wednesday, Dec. 11 Friday, Dec. 13	8 to 10:30 a.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m.
<b>MW Classes</b> 1:40 to 2:55 p.m. 3:05 to 4:20 p.m. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.	Wednesday, Dec. 11 Monday, Dec. 16 Monday, Dec. 9	2 to 4:30 p.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m. 5 to 7:30 p.m.
<b>TTh Classes</b> 8 to 9:15 a.m. 9:25 to 10:40 a.m. 10:50 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. 1:40 to 2:55 p.m. 3:05 to 4:20 p.m. 5:30 to 6:45 p.m.	Tuesday, Dec. 10 Thursday, Dec. 12 Tuesday, Dec. 10 Thursday, Dec. 12 Tuesday, Dec. 10 Thursday, Dec. 12 Tuesday, Dec. 10	8 to 10:30 a.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m. 5 to 7:30 p.m.
<b>Evening/Night/Fri./Sat. Classes</b> Monday, 4:25 to 7:05 p.m. Monday, 7:15 to 10 p.m. Tuesday, 4:25 to 7:05 p.m. Tuesday, 7:15 to 10 p.m. Wednesday, 4:25 to 7:05 p.m. Wednesday, 7:15 to 10 p.m. Thursday, 4:25 to 7:05 p.m. Thursday, 7:15 to 10 p.m. Friday, 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.	Monday, Dec. 9 Monday, Dec. 9 Tuesday, Dec. 10 Tuesday, Dec. 10 Wednesday, Dec. 11 Wednesday, Dec. 11 Thursday, Dec. 12 Thursday, Dec. 12 Friday, Dec. 13 Saturday, Dec. 14	5 to 7:30 p.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 5 to 7:30 p.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 5 to 7:30 p.m. 8 to 10:30 p.m. 5 to 7:30 p.m. 8 to 10:30 a.m. 2 to 4:30 p.m. 8:30 to 11 a.m.



# Dance, auction gets students in the Christmas spirit

By Lorena Cruz

Staff Writer

UTB/TSC students reached deep into their pockets Nov. 20 to help make Christmas a little brighter for needy children.

They pitched in more than \$800 and dozens of toys during the Toys-for-Tots Dance and Celebrity Auction in the Student Union ballroom.

Sponsored by the Criminal Justice Association and the Office of Student Activities, the dance featured live music and a DJ.

Admission was an unwrapped toy. A total of 111 dolls, cars, stuffed animals and balls filled a table at the entrance to the ballroom.

CJA President Frank Muñiz said the cash and toy collection would help the club meet its goal of serving at least 300 Brownsville children.

Junior bilingual education major Talina Fernandez received the highest bid--\$200--in the campus celebrity auction.

"Well, I figured it would be a good way to help out the children from Brownsville, I heard it was a fundraiser and I said why not," Fernandez said.

Sophomore bio-physics engineering major Erick Vallarino bid \$35 for freshman Leslie Robinson.

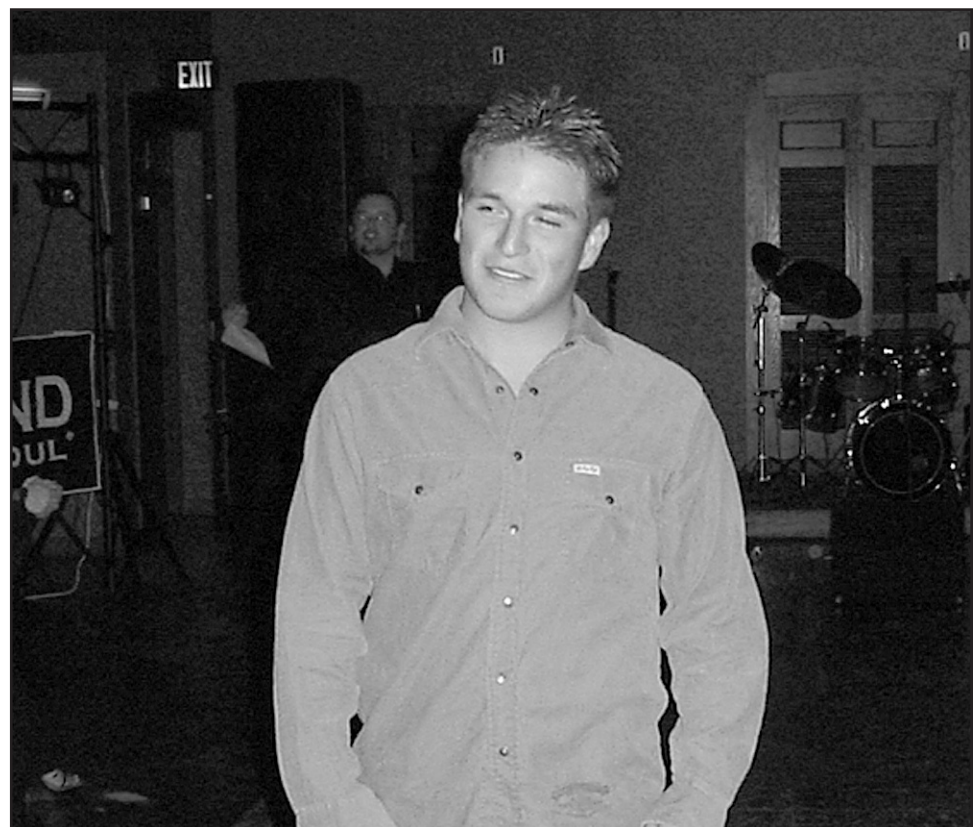
"I thought she was really pretty and I wanted to be with someone in the dance, so I decided to bet on her," Vallarino said.

Twenty-four students "sold" during the auction raised \$832.

The sounds of DJ Planet Sound and A.D.N. brought everyone to the dance floor.

"I think the music is great ... very good music to listen to and also really good music to dance to," said Juan Picazo, a freshman music education major.

Asked if there would be more dances on campus, Vince Solis, director of Student Activities, told The Collegian that it will depend on the success of this event.



SONIA MEJIA/COLLEGIAN

***Freshman kinesiology major Arnold Meza struts his stuff at the Toys-for-Tots Dance and Campus Celebrity Auction. He raised \$20 for the benefit.***

## Fees

Continued from Page 1

president for Student Affairs and member of the fee committee. "The fee statute requires input to the [TSC] board from [the] Student Fee Advisory Committee and from the president of the institution."

Under the plan, the Designated Tuition Fee would go up from the current \$25 to \$27 per semester credit hour. The fee is expected to generate an additional \$432,792 in revenue.

"The reality is we are not going to get any additional money from the Legislature," Vice President for Student Affairs Hilda Silva said in explaining why UTB/TSC wants to hike the fee. "As an institution, we are hurting in many departments in terms of the lack of money to continue to do the things we do."

In order to maintain the \$14 differential between undergraduate and graduate tuition, Charles Lackey, interim dean of Graduate Studies, recommended a \$2 per semester credit hour increase in graduate tuition. The increase is expected to generate an additional \$14,084 in revenue.

Twenty-one new incidental fees also got the green light from the committee.

The Business Technology Department is seeking to impose a new fee of \$65 per semester for any student

enrolled in its courses, except for paralegal courses. It is expected to generate an additional \$46,150 in revenue. This fee would affect 710 students seeking associate degrees in Business Technology.

Department Chair Mary Sullivan said the fee would replace the existing \$8 fee per course. She said the fee would help defray the cost of paper, toner, materials, software licensure and maintenance and upgrade of computers.

"The \$8 fee has been around since the seventies ... we thought it would be better to get rid of the \$8 dollar fee. ... We are the only [department] on campus that doesn't charge our students ... for printing in our labs, so we furnish a tremendous amount of paper," Sullivan said.

A second, new incidental fee proposed by the Business Technology Department is the \$40 Legal Assistant or Paralegal Course Fee, which would generate \$3,600 in revenue and affect 90 students. It would defray the cost of individual student subscriptions to the full version of Lexis, a legal research software, and would replace an existing \$8 fee.

Dianna Blankenship, director of the paralegal studies program, said the "minimum fee for a one-person office [is] \$120 a month and this is \$40. This is a special arrangement that Lexis is having only for schools with the two-

year [paralegal associate program]."

The School of Education's Alternative Certification Program is seeking to impose a \$1,000 fee for students in the program who have qualified for an extension to teach an additional year and have not completed all their certification requirements. The fee would affect 50 students, generating \$50,000 in revenue.

The Alternative Certification Program Extension Fee would defray the costs associated with managing student files and providing the necessary ExCET/TEXES review sessions in order to prepare students for state-required certification exams and final certification.

"The problem that we have been having for the last several years is that they don't finish, so they get a one-year extension," said Gayle Brogdon, assistant dean of the School of Education. "It's a fee that they can avoid, if they choose."

Chuey Abrego Jr., interim director for the ACP, presented the proposed \$10 General Fee for Education Majors. It would affect 3,574 students and generate \$35,740 per semester. The fee would defray the cost of advising, recruitment and travel for field-based experiences.

"Between a full-time adviser and myself, we cannot handle the number of students that we are getting," Abrego

said.

In the School of Health Sciences, a Licensed Vocational Nursing Orientation Study Skills Workshop Fee of \$30 has been proposed to provide a special preparatory workshop to reduce the 30 percent attrition in the program. The fee would defray the cost of materials and supplies.

"We are having a lot of students coming in, they weren't really prepared," said program director Gloria Spencer. "... Its' very important to do everything we can to make that student complete that program. We have worked closely with the Learning Assistance Center to provide workshops; however, there has been no charge to the student for this."

Committee member Mary Jane Saucedo, an associate professor of accounting, asked, "Isn't that what the counselors do?"

Spencer replied, "These study skills that you have now on campus started with our program as a pilot, so we have been doing this since 1996."

Saucedo then asked, "So, these students are going to have to pay extra? ... All students pay for counseling, advising fees."

Spencer explained, "The workshop has gotten a little more detailed, we hand out more information. ... It started out as half a day but it has grown to a

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# University works toward communication program

By **Jamie Standeford**  
*Staff Writer*

UTB/TSC administrators and faculty are working to get a bachelor's degree in communication approved for next fall.

"We've had a lot of interest over the last few years from students interested in a communication degree," said Charles Dameron, chairman of the English and Speech Department. "And it's actually one that we have wanted to get implemented starting at the beginning of the partnership, but it's taken a while to move all of our new programs forward. So, this is one that we feel it's the right time to take it forward."

A consultant was brought in to help draft the proposal. The plan will require the approval at several levels before it is implemented. Dameron said he is hopeful that the program will start next fall.

"The earliest that it can be available would be the Fall of 2003 and that's what we're hoping for," he said. "But that's assuming that it's able to move rapidly enough and there's always the possibility that it won't get the final approval from the state in time to

implement it in the fall. In that case, then we would implement it in the following spring."

The program proposal is due for a second reading by the University Curriculum Committee this month, Dameron said. If approved by the committee, it will be submitted to the UT System for approval, then the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

If the program is approved, Dameron said he expects that enrollment in the classes will be slow at first until the word has been out that the university has a communication program.

"I can tell you that Pan American ... [has] about 300 students taking their classes from semester to semester," Dameron said. "So, we're not UT-Pan American but just to... say, 'Gee, in South Texas, is there an interest and what might it be?' ... Initially, of course, it will have to build but I think over time, a short time, I think that we would have several hundred students."

The bachelor's degree in communication will consist of two areas: mass communication and communication studies.

"Mass communication, for example, would be like journalism, public rela-



**Charles Dameron**

tions, advertising, radio and TV broadcast journalism," Dameron said.

He said the university would try to coordinate internship opportunities with the local media for students in the mass communication track.

"One of the things we would anticipate is that there would be opportunities at the student newspaper and even possibly something with, say the Brownsville Herald or the Valley Morning Star for students to do news writing," he said.

Dameron said the communication studies track "is designed for people ... going into government work, going into

private industry or the business world and getting involved in things like organizational communication and interpersonal communications."

Asked how much the program implementation would cost, Dameron replied that it would cost virtually nothing besides the cost of salary for new faculty with qualified experience in the communication field. He said classrooms on campus and library facilities are adequate enough for the program they want to begin with.

"The main cost is in the hiring of faculty because we're not having to build new buildings," Dameron said. "There's lots of opportunities in the communication field to create sophisticated production rooms. ... And, we might move into that eventually, but initially I think we'd work with what we have."

Dameron said the only requirement for students who are interested in enrolling in the communication program would be to take care of the general education requirements. He said some basic core classes, such as speech and composition, would help those interested in the communications program.

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# Students gather border environment data

By Ildefonso Ortiz  
*Tiempo Nuevo Editor*

Three university students are wrapping up a yearlong project aimed at increasing awareness of environmental issues in the Lower Rio Grande Valley and the surrounding area.

Graduate students Javier Dimas, Carrie Brinkley and Martha Casquette gathered information on the Rio Grande and local environmental activities through a \$50,000 grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

"The grant was written last fall and it started in the beginning of the year, in early January," said Dimas, a political science major.

The purpose of the Sustainability in Environmental Protection Activities grant was to try to increase awareness of the environment from a binational perspective, said Delina Barrera, director of the Brownsville Community Improvement Corp. and SEPA adviser.

"The way that I wrote the grant was so that we would have three graduate students to have a fellowship that would pay for tuition, books and fees

and they would also get a stipend to set up a mini-office in environmental activities to be able to find out all the different groups both in Brownsville and in Matamoros that are involved in different types of environmental activities, to catalog those and put together a book, to be able to do some research in that area and to help with the Cross Border Collaboration Education Project," Barrera said.

She said the environment "knows no borders, what happens in Matamoros affects us and what happens here in Brownsville affects Matamoros ... we need to work all of us together to try to ensure that the environment is beneficial to us and that we ... are working to sustain that environment."

Dimas, Brinkley and Casquette set up the Sustainability in Environmental Protection Activities office in Duffey Plaza. Brinkley is studying business and Casquette, math and science.

Barrera said that having students from different disciplines was advantageous to the project.

"When we're looking at things like the environment, in order to be able to



COURTESY PHOTO

**Early this year, UTB/TSC students and faculty traveled the Rio Grande on a canoe, going to Falcon Dam and back. They are (from left) Javier Dimas, Vilma Orduña, Gerardo Noriega, Carrie Brinkley-Martinez, Martha Casquette, Francisco Ramirez and Delina Barrera, adviser.**

address it effectively, you need to have a multidisciplinary approach," she said.

SEPA's objectives included setting up and staffing a SEPA center.

"[The students] became involved in this network ... in all the activities that were taking place, both in Matamoros and Brownsville," and participated in those activities and helped them get the word out, Barrera said.

Another objective was to identify and recruit members of a Binational Environmental Consortium.

The consortium had representatives from Matamoros and the United States, she said, including the university, the U.S. Coast Guard, non-profit environmental organization, the city of Brownsville Planning Department, and similar counterparts in Matamoros.

"[The consortium] functioned as an advisory board for the work that the students were putting together and the direction they were heading," Barrera said.

She said that as the students were doing their research, the consortium emphasized that the most important thing to focus on was the Rio Grande.

Asked what findings the research produced, Barrera replied that Dimas, Brinkley and Casquette found that "there's a lot of information [about the river] out there, but it's scattered, it's not comprehensive, it's not put together."

The students also found that "we

tend to forget how vital the river is for our existence and that the river has been neglected ... for years and years," Barrera said.

Dimas said, "We found out it is not considered a river anymore, it's considered a stream, because as it flows downward it has less and less water. It also has a lot of pollution, a lot of weeds and hydrilla, which choke the river ... the river has shrunk a lot."

"If we don't start taking care of it, then we're looking at some very, very serious problems," Barrera said. "The bottom line is that for all of us that are living here ... without the river, we would die. We need the water and we need the river and we need to start taking care of the river.

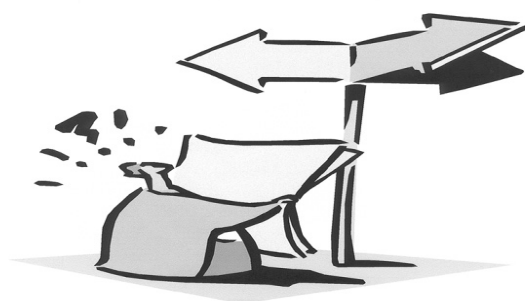
But as the researchers learned, people have different ideas on how to address the Rio Grande's problems, including the hydrilla, the aquatic plant plaguing the river.

"As they spoke to different individuals, there were many different perspectives on how to address that particular problem," she said.

Last spring, Barrera directed a class for graduate and undergraduate students on environmental policy, politics and management, so that they understood that "the very basic concepts when you're talking about the environment and ... so they could understand that if you're coming from a science perspective or ... business or

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See 'Rio,' Page 16



**Accounts****Continued from Page 1**

which bank would provide the best service to student organizations in terms of bank fees. Martinez also recommended that student organizations undergo training on reconciliation of accounts.

The resolution comes after some harsh words Camarillo had for the Business Office during the SGA's Nov. 1 meeting. Camarillo vowed that the SGA would fight for a more efficient accounts process and threatened to "step on some toes" if necessary.

Martinez said the SGA or the Campus Accounts Ad Hoc Committee should have contacted herself or the Business Office over these "perceived" issues.

"Waiting to hear about them in a newspaper article is really not, in my opinion, a way to try and solve problems and work through issues," Martinez said. "Now, I've worked with SGA on other matters and how we've worked on them was to schedule meetings and to listen to the data that they had to provide, and I just expected that they would follow the process. ... It would help the situation if this ad hoc committee ... had visited with us on the issues. I think somewhere along

the line there was some confusion that led these folks to believe that the rules are ours, but they're not."

Martinez also said the Business Office has never been opposed to any changes to the accounts process, as long as it was within the regents' rules.

"We don't dictate the policy for how those student accounts are managed," Martinez said. "Somehow there's a misconception that the Business Office has set the rules for how they work--we don't. The rules aren't ours. We're just simply disbursing funds that folks have placed with us. Actually, we issue thousands and thousands and thousands of checks a year, and so eliminating the work that's associated with these accounts will not create a hardship for us--in fact, it will relieve some of the burden--but by the same token, we want to make sure that someone, either SGA or the director of Student Activities, has evaluated that the different club accounts will operate in accordance with the rules, that they're at a bank that's going to treat them fair and not use up all of their fund-raising on monthly service fees and that everybody's happy and clear on what they're going to do."

Camarillo said the reason the SGA had not contacted Martinez or the

Business Office was because Solis had already been in contact with them, but Martinez said that she had never been contacted by the SGA or its adviser.

Camarillo said his words at the Nov. 1 SGA meeting were out of "frustration with the system" and were not meant to offend anyone.

"Time and time again, we've had student orgs come in and say this is what's happened, and then we had more information that would tell me otherwise that things aren't working out and they're not getting any better," Camarillo said. "I don't think my words were out of frustration or just to be mean to the Business Office--they

do great work and they're doing great work and they have a lot of things ahead of them, and so I understand the problems and the issues that they face. Again, I can't place the blame on them all and they're really not to blame. The system that's in place is what I question."

The SGA's involvement in the campus accounts issue initially began because student organizations had been complaining of the slow withdrawal process. Several student organizations had also claimed to be missing funds, but Camarillo said as of Nov. 20, those issues had been resolved.

## Club Spotlight

**Club name:** Disney Association  
UTB/TSC Chapter

**Purpose:** To recruit and prepare future participants embarking on the Walt Disney World College Program; to support the local community by volunteer and community service projects; to help returning College Program participants readjust to campus life and provide an outlet for sharing Disney experiences; and to support the college recruiting staff in preparation for their visit to our campus.

**Established:** Fall 2002

**President:** Monica Lopez

**Vice President:** Heather Kiolbassa

**Secretary:** Virginia Mendoza

**Treasurer:** Monica Hernandez

**Historian:** Jorge Alfaro Jr.

**Public Relations:** Ramiro Galvan  
**Disney College Program Campus Representative:** Heather Kiolbassa

**Advisers:** Mario Torres and Rick Gonzales

**Meetings:** 3 p.m. every other Tuesday in North Hall 217. Next meeting is Dec. 3.

**Events and Community Service:** Ecological Equilibrium, Rio Reforestation, H-E-B Feast of Sharing, Walt Disney World College Program presentations, West Campus Haunted House, Halloween Havoc and Flag Football Extravaganza.

**For more information, call:** Kiolbassa at 551-1006.

--Compiled by Leslie Robinson



SONIA MEJIA/COLLEGIAN

*Members of the Disney Association Club are (front row, from left) Heather Kiolbassa, vice president, and Monica Hernandez, treasurer. Second row: Virginia Mendoza, secretary; Ramiro Galvan, public relations; and Monica Lopez, president. Back row: Jorge Alfaro, historian; Leticia Galvan, member; and Laura Castillo, member.*

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# Lucio puts down chalk and takes up clubs

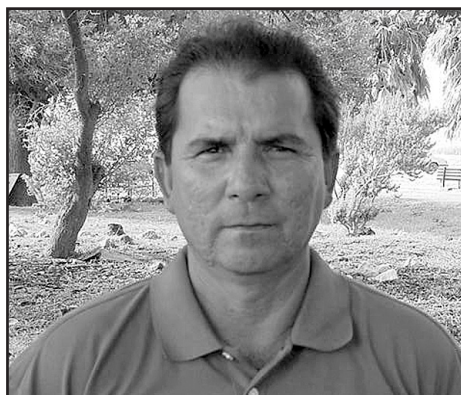
By Alejandro Rivera  
*Sports Editor*

UTB/TSC golf coach Jessie Lucio recently had a chance to shine outside coaching. He participated in the Texas Senior Open, tying for 39th place. The tournament, which is part of the Southern Texas Professional Golf Association, took place at the South Padre Island Golf Course Nov. 13-15.

Once in the Senior Open, Lucio competed against 120 players from Texas, Ohio, New York and Florida.

Lucio said he had a steady first round and shot even par, being a few shots off the lead. He putted and hit the ball well. He finished the opening round in the top 25. The second round brought some misfortune, though, and Lucio fell off the pace as he fought a slumping game and some strong north winds. He made the cut after the second day along with 60 other players. He went home and practiced his putting on his living room carpet and returned the third day relaxed and in focus. He played better but still had some problems on a few holes. Lucio attributed the mistakes to rust.

"When I was playing high school and college golf, I played every day," Lucio said. "When you get away from competitive golf, you tend to forget some things



*Jesse Lucio*

sometimes, you're not as sharp. On the third day, I really put my mind to thinking. I hit the ball very well and I putted the ball better, but I had three bad holes that really, really hurt me."

The event was Lucio's first professional tournament in several years. He considers his return to professional play a success.

"I still managed to come in [a tie for 39th] place," Lucio said. "I was really, really happy with [my play] in my first professional tournament in years. I used to play the pro tour, the mini-tour actually, back about 10-15 years ago."

Lucio is now looking forward to participating in as many pro tournaments as he can.

"I'm going to try to get in every professional tournament that I can, if time

permits with coaching and teaching," he said. "It's all about attitude and confidence. I've been around golf all my life and I feel very confident about what I do on the golf course, so it's just a matter of applying those principles that I teach and coach every day."

Lucio hopes his participating in the tournament can inspire and serve as an example to his players to do better.

"I live by example every day, anything I do at home and at work," he said. "I hope that the kids can see that the coach can do it also on the golf course. That'll be an incentive for them to try to do the best they can all the time. I'm a never-give-up type of person. When I get on the golf course, every shot is important. ... So, yes, I hope I'm being an example to these kids coming up that are just learning and have to experience the tournament pressures and the hard work that it takes to get ready for [competition]."

With Thanksgiving just behind us, Lucio had a lot to be thankful for.

"I'm ecstatic," Lucio said. "I turned 50 this year and I was probably the youngest senior out there. It's quite an honor for me, you know. I thank God that I'm still healthy and that I can do what I really love to do and that's being on the golf course. I'm very thankful for that."



The children are tucked away, dreaming sweet dreams and awaiting the arrival of old St. Nick. Yet in his place comes another chubby man-the Rookie. Yeah, here I am bringing you the Christmas edition of the Rookie's Corner.

So sit on my lap and I'll tell you what is going on in the sports world.

In honor of my old pal Trey "the Meister" Mendez, I will start with the Chicago Cubs. The Cubs fans are excited because they just snagged former San Francisco skipper Dusty Baker, a three-time manager of the year, who just led the Giants to the World Series. His job here will be harder since the Cubs haven't won a championship in 94 years. This is where you'd expect a sarcastic comment from me saying they don't have a chance, but I'm actually excited to see what Baker is capable of. Maybe the Cubs can see the glory again, just not next year.

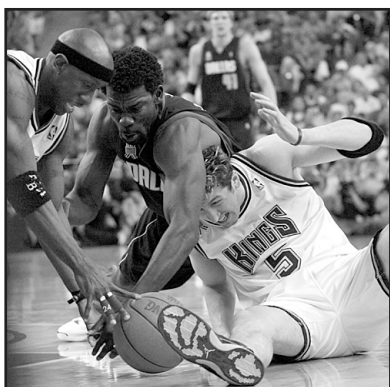
The football season is past the midway point and so far our picks look as follows: I picked Miami in the East and they're in first; the Steelers in the North and they're also in first; and the Colts in the South, who are tied with the Titans at the top; in the AFC West, I chose Kansas City. What was I thinking?

In the NFC, I chose the Rams to win the West and they're behind San Francisco at 5-5 but have won their last five games; in the South, I could not decide between Tampa Bay and New Orleans. I said they'd be tied and the Saints are one game back. In the North, I picked the Bears over the Packers and I was way wrong. The Packers lead the division 8-2 while the Bears are 2-8. In the East, I said the Cowboys would win the division. The Cowboys' season has gone so far south it's standing next to Juan Valdez and his burro. I said the Redskins would lead but that didn't work out, either. The leader is the Philadelphia Eagles at 7-3 but with the loss of Donovan McNabb, the New York Giants may take the lead.

John Strubelt picked the Dolphins, the Steelers, and the Titans correctly in the AFC. In the NFC, he picked the Packers and Tampa Bay.

Turkey leftovers are on the plate and gifts are under the tree so be good for goodness sake 'cuz the jolly old fat man in the red suit is comin' to town.

--Alejandro Rivera



## Dallas Mavericks are En Fuego

The Dallas Mavericks are the hottest team in the NBA, getting off to a 12-0 start. This is the best start in franchise history and at press time they still were undefeated. The Mavericks have been a powerhouse in the NBA since their resurgence two years ago. Led by All-Star-caliber players like Michael Finley, Steve Nash and Dirk Nowitzki, they are one of the most potent offenses in the NBA, yet now they are playing defense as well. Now the mystery is who will hand them their first loss?

--Alejandro Rivera

## Athlete of the Week

By Alejandro Rivera  
*Sports Editor*

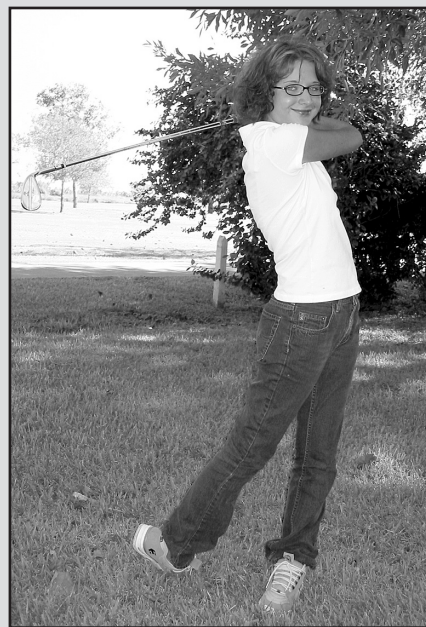
**Name:** Carling Filewich  
**High School:** Spruce Grove Composite High School in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
**Classification:** Freshman  
**Majors:** Biology and math  
**Height:** 5'2"

**Hobbies:** "I like to snowboard."  
**Favorite Team:** Edmonton Oilers  
**Favorite Athlete:** Jarome Iginla, right wing for the Calgary Flames, a National Hockey League team.

**Began playing golf:** "When I was about 7 but I didn't really start doing it seriously until last year."

**What do you like about golf?** "It's a good way to escape from all the pressures."

**Personal Goals:** "I want to improve enough that I can qualify for the Canadian Nationals in the summer."  
**Team Goals:** "To make it to




Nationals."

**Awards/Honors:** Made it to Provincial High School Championship and placed 18th.

**Where do you see yourself in 10 years?** "Back home, that's all I know. I haven't thought that far ahead."





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# Feast worth waiting for

By Sonia Mejia  
Staff Writer

H-E-B's annual Feast of Sharing offered more than a free traditional Thanksgiving meal to people in the Brownsville area. Thousands of people had the opportunity to come together under the spirit of sharing and left home with a sense of communal unity and gratification.

"It's very nice, everyone [should] come and enjoy it with their families," said Alma Galvan, a teaching assistant from Los Fresnos who attended with her family.

The meal consisted of turkey slices, stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, and a dinner roll. Refreshments, water and pumpkin pie rounded out the meal.

"We had 2,400 pounds of turkey," said Joe Lucio, director of H-E-B Food Store on Boca Chica Boulevard. "We [brought] the equivalent of 10,000 pieces of pie."

Also prepared for the feast were 1,400 pounds of stuffing, 800 pounds of potatoes and 800 pound of vegetables.

Preparing for this event is a yearlong process, Lucio said, but "the real work started on Tuesday and of course, today."

"We're prepared to serve 12,000 [people] and at this point, at the rate we're going, we are going to serve the 12,000," Lucio said.

The line of people waiting to be seated spread around the Jacob Brown Auditorium and, at its peak, extended to Gorgas Drive.

"I got here about 30 minutes ago," said Marc Pizaña, a parking enforcement officer for the Brownsville Police Department, who was at the end of the line. "This is my first time here and I want to know what it's all about."

The meal was worth waiting for, according to senior citizen Beatrice Martinez.

"Of course, to have a good time it's worth the wait," Martinez said.

Inside the Jacob Brown Auditorium, several groups entertained the crowd, including the Porter High School Grupo Folklórico and the UTB/TSC Grupo Folklórico Tizatlán and the Russell Elementary School choir and cheerleaders.

More than 400 volunteers served the guests. Some poured drinks and some passed out the food plates while others directed people to a seat or picked up empty plates from the tables.

Cesar De Leon, a volunteer from St. Joseph Academy, explained why he volunteered.

"We're just giving a little bit back to the town where we reside," De Leon said as he swept the floor. "I've been working for four hours and I'll continue working until about 3 o'clock."

Even Lucio had a mop in hand, ready to clear the way for more guests.

Once finished with their meals, people mingled outside the Jacob Brown Complex, where groups such as Los Pistoleros and Los Potrillos performed and where treats such as cotton candy and face painting were available.

The 11th annual Feast of Sharing was sponsored H-E-B, the City of Brownsville and more than 30 co-sponsors including UTB/TSC.



*The line for the Feast of Sharing was long, but people were not discouraged. They said the wait was about 30 minutes.*



*Jacob Brown Auditorium was converted into Brownsville's dining room for H-E-B's 11th annual Feast of Sharing. Thousands were served a free Thanksgiving meal.*



*Leslie Lopez (left) and Mayra Garcia of Rivera High School were among the hundreds of volunteers who served meals and soft drinks at the event.*



*Luz Alejandra Mejia of Rivera High School paints the cartoon character SpongeBob SquarePants on the face of Jomaly Lugo of Central Middle School.*



*Los Pistoleros perform for the Feast of Sharing crowd outside Jacob Brown Auditorium.*

Photos by  
Dámaris Gloria



# Estudiantes de SEPA aprenden sobre el Río

Por Ildefonso Ortiz

*Editor de Tiempo Nuevo*

Tres estudiantes están terminando un proyecto de un año de duración con el propósito de incrementar conciencia en el medio ambiente del Valle del Río Grande y las áreas cercanas.

Los estudiantes de pos-grado Javier Dimas, Carrie Brinkley y Martha Casquette reunieron información sobre el Río Grande y actividades ambientalistas en las áreas locales a través de una beca por \$50,000 dólares de la Agencia de Protección al Medio Ambiente (EPA por sus siglas en inglés).

"La beca fue escrita el otoño pasado y comenzó a principios del año, a principios de enero", dijo Dimas, estudiante de política.

El propósito de la beca de Mantenimiento de Actividades de Protección Ambientalistas (SEPA por sus siglas en inglés) era tratar de incrementar conciencia en el medio ambiente desde una perspectiva binacional, dijo Delina Barrera, directora de la Corporación de Mejoramiento Comunitario de Brownsville y consejera de SEPA.

"La forma en que escribí la beca era para que tuviéramos tres estudiantes de pos-grado que tuvieran una beca que cubriera sus estudios, libros y cuotas y que recibieran un estipendio para poner una mini oficina de actividades ambientalistas para poder localizar todos los diferentes grupos tanto en Brownsville como en Matamoros que estén relacionados con los diferentes tipos de actividades ambientalistas, catalogarlos, y ponerlos en un libro, para poder hacer investigaciones en esa área y ayudar con el Proyecto de Colaboración en la Educación A Través de Fronteras", dijo Barrera.

Ella dijo que el medio ambiente "no conoce fronteras, lo que pasa en Matamoros nos afecta, y lo que pasa aquí en Brownsville afecta a Matamoros... necesitamos trabajar todos juntos para asegurarnos que el medio ambiente es un beneficio para nosotros y que nosotros... trabajemos para mantener el medio ambiente".

Dimas, Brinkley y Casquette formaron la oficina de Mantenimiento de Actividades de Protección Ambientalistas en la Plaza Duffey. Brinkley estudia negocios y Casquette matemáticas y ciencias.

Barrera dijo que fue ventajoso para el proyecto tener estudiantes de diferentes disciplinas.

"Cuando vemos cosas como el medio ambiente, para poder verlo de manera efectiva necesitas un acercamiento multidisciplinario", dijo ella.

Los objetivos de SEPA incluyen formar y mantener el centro SEPA.

"[Los estudiantes] se involucraron en esta red... en todas las actividades que

***"Sin el río, moriríamos. Necesitamos el agua y necesitamos el río y necesitamos cuidar el río"***

***--Delina Barrera***

se llevaban a cabo tanto en Matamoros como en Brownsville", y participaron en esas actividades y ayudaron a promover el mensaje, dijo Barrera.

Otro objetivo era identificar y reclutar miembros de un Consorcio Ambientalista Binacional.

El consorcio tenía representantes de Matamoros y Estados Unidos, dijo ella, incluyendo la universidad, la Guardia Costera Norteamericana, organizaciones ambientalistas sin lucro, el Departamento de Planeación de Brownsville y colegas similares de Matamoros.

"[El consorcio] funcionó como un comité asesor para el trabajo que estaban haciendo los estudiantes y la dirección que estaban tomando, dijo Barrera.

Ella dijo que mientras los estudiantes hacían sus investigaciones, el consorcio enfatizaba que lo más importante en cuanto al enfoque era el Río Grande.

En respuesta sobre que descubrimientos habían producido las investigaciones, Barrera contestó que Dimas, Brinkley y Casquette encontraron que "afuera hay mucha información [sobre el río], pero está dispersada, no es comprensiva, y no está preparada".

Los estudiantes también descubrieron que "tenemos la tendencia de olvidar que tan vital es el río para nuestra existencia y que el río ha sido descuidado... por años y años", dijo Barrera.

Dimas dijo, "descubrimos que ya no se considera un río, se considera arroyo, porque cuando fluye tiene menos agua. También tiene mucha contaminación, mucha hierba hidrilla, la cual ahorca el río... el río ha disminuido bastante".

"Si no comenzamos a cuidarlo, entonces estamos viendo problemas muy, muy serios", dijo Barrera. "La cosa es que para todos nosotros que

vivimos aquí... sin el río, moriríamos. Necesitamos el agua y necesitamos el río y necesitamos cuidar el río".

Pero como los investigadores descubrieron, la gente tiene diferentes ideas sobre como lidiar los problemas del río Grande, incluyendo la hidrilla, la planta acuática que plaga el río.

"Mientras hablaron con diferentes personas, había muchas diferentes perspectivas sobre como lidiar con ese problema en particular", dijo ella.

La primavera pasada, Barrera dirigió una clase para estudiantes de licenciatura y de pos-grado sobre el medio ambiente en cuanto a política, ley y administración, para que entendieran "los conceptos más básicos cuando están hablando sobre el medio ambiente y... para que entiendan si vienes de una perspectiva científica... empresarial o... una perspectiva política, tienes una actitud muy diferente sobre como resolver el problema. Y a veces esas actitudes chocan y ellos vieron eso cuando comenzaron a trabajar con algunos de los problemas [que enfrenta] el río. Lo que también vieron es que... tú puedes reunirlos y juntos comenzar a trabajar para resolver la situación".

El grupo, junto con algunos estudiantes de licenciatura, organizó la Feria E2 en el Centro Estudiantil el 19 de octubre la cual estaba dirigida a niños "para hacer que ellos entiendan la importancia del medio ambiente", dijo Barrera. La feria incluyó un video sobre conciencia con los pesticidas, camisetas

y títeres, con representantes de Brownsville, Matamoros y EPA en la asistencia.

Para Casquette, la feria fue una de las experiencias más memorables del proyecto.

"Tuvimos que comenzar con algo simple," dijo Casquette. "Tuvimos que añadir juegos que tuvieran un mensaje, juegos que les pudieran enseñar sobre el medio ambiente".

Brinkley también disfrutó trabajar en la feria.

"Lo que hacía cuando vivía en Austin era coordinar eventos, así que pensé que podría con ésto", dijo Brinkley. "La otra parte memorable fue las personas que conocimos y mis colegas".

Los becados también tomaron un viaje por el río en canoas.

"Fuimos hasta la Presa Falcón y luego navegamos de regreso", dijo Barrera.

Aparte, los estudiantes de la primavera pasada de estadística de Barrera crearon y condujeron una encuesta de conciencia sobre el medio ambiente en Brownsville, mientras que los becados de SEPA y Proyecto de Colaboración en la Educación A Través de Fronteras encuestaban a los residentes de Matamoros.

Los tres becados deben de presentar sus descubrimientos al EPA.

Margie Mancillas, directora de Alianza Pre-K-16 y SEPA, dijo que la universidad está trabajando con la EPA para patrocinar una continuación del proyecto el año entrante.

## Estudiante de Hoy

Por Lorena Cruz

*Reportera*

**Nombre:** Miriam Marie Garza

**Edad:** 19 años

**Promedio:** 4.0

**Clasificación:** estudiante del segundo año

**Especialidad:** Gobierno

**Afiliaciones:** Ambassadors y Phi Theta Kappa

**Pasatiempos:** Ir de compras, al cine, salir a comer y salir con amigos.

**¿Cuál ha sido tu reto más grande?** "Yo fui la estudiante número uno de mi clase en la Preparatoria Porter".

**¿Cuáles son tus metas a corto y largo plazo?** "A largo plazo espero poder ir a la escuela de leyes y ser una abogada que ayude a defender los derechos de los niños y por ahora



sólo deseo terminar mis clases de este semestre".

**¿Qué has hecho en beneficio de la comunidad?** "En la preparatoria hice mucho servicio social; ayudando en almuerzos comunitarios, reparto de juguetes y recientemente en "Boo at the Zoo".



# 'Noche Bohemia' celebra la cultura hispana

Por Lorena Cruz

Reportera

Música, poesía, danza y la cultura hispana se concentraron en un solo lugar, Noche Bohemia, que se llevó a cabo el 15 de noviembre en el anterior Centro Estudiantil Lightner.

Noche Bohemia es una celebración organizada por Sigma Delta Pi Sociedad Nacional Honoraria hispánica, capítulo Tau Chi con el propósito de promover la expresión artística en español desde octubre del 2001.

En este evento participaron estudiantes de UTB/TSC con talento poético y musical, así también como invitados de otras instituciones y maestros de lenguas modernas.

Uno de los eventos que hizo reflexionar fue el expresivo monólogo narrado por Gerardo Lara, integrante de "Teatro Laberinto".

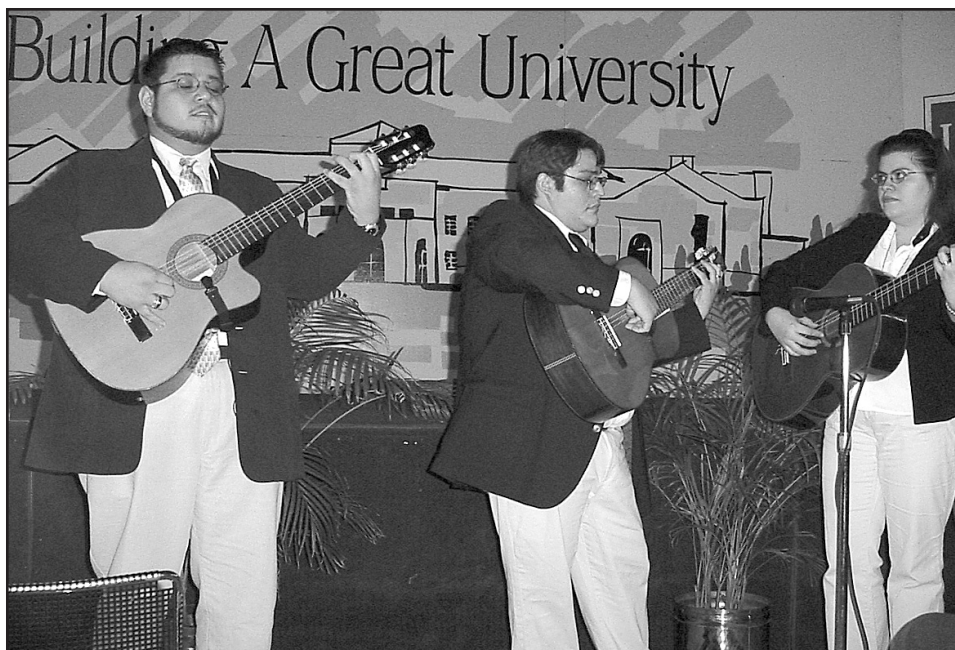
El público fue cautivado por la desgarradora historia de un jugador de fútbol americano de la década de los años 60 llamado Mike.

La historia del jugador hablaba de la fuerza de voluntad y de la gallardía que se puede tener a pesar de afrontar las peores tragedias.

Este evento mostró muchos nuevos talentos como Gerardo Lara y el joven poeta José Cruz Ambriz, que hizo reflexionar a muchos con "Paradoja", la

alidad que gustó a los espectadores. Desde una simple alusión al aprendizaje hasta la premonición de la muerte.

El profesor Juan Antonio González



LORENA CRUZ/COLLEGIAN

*El Trío Alma Bohemia, compuesto por César Olguín (de izquierda), José de Anda y Aidé de Anda, toca baladas de antaño durante la Noche Bohemia.*

vida de un adicto.

La poesía como expresión de ideas llenó la noche con un aire de intelectu-

declamó un poema de Leopoldo Lugones que no obstante era corto, su contenido era vasto.

Entre mariachis, cantantes, bailarines, un trío y una simple guitarra hicieron recordar a muchos sus raíces tanto mexicanas como hispanas.

La guitarra en compañía de la melódica lengua del español resonaba y se convertía en una expresión de ritmos vibrantes y apasionados significativos del carisma de la cultura hispana.

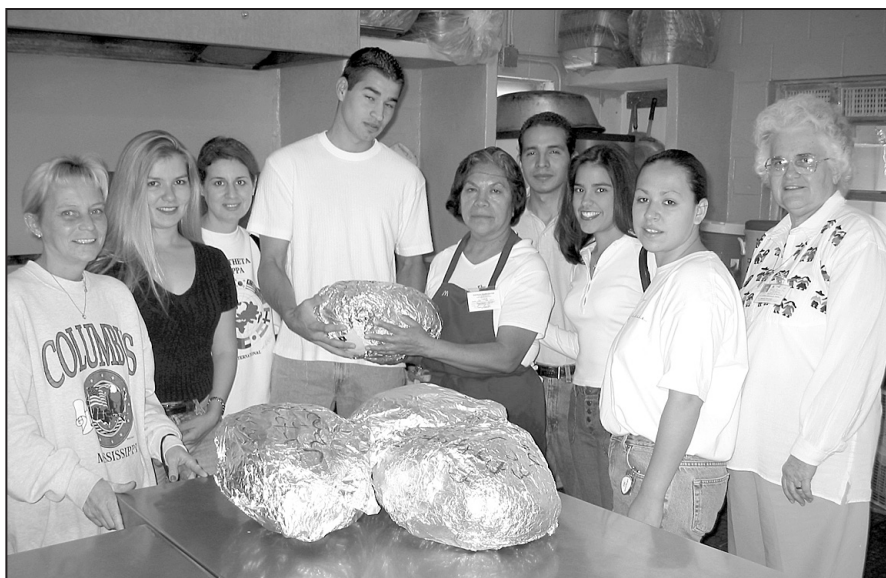
El trío Alma Bohemia compuesto por los estudiantes Cesar Olguín, José de Anda y Aidé de Anda fue una de las participaciones musicales más aplaudidas por el público.

El grupo de danza Sabor Vallero hizo mover a todo el mundo con el ritmo de Chachachá.

Al término del evento el público compuesto por al menos 100 personas estaba satisfecho por el programa ofrecido.

"El evento me pareció algo que beneficia tanto a la universidad como a toda la comunidad hispana de Brownsville", dijo Soraya González, espectadora del evento. "... A veces uno no piensa que algunas palabras puedan decir tanto pero en realidad cuando te relacionas y te metes en la historia te das cuenta que las palabras tienen más significado de lo que crees".

## Albergue recibe donación de pavos



ALEJANDRO RIVERA/COLLEGIAN

*La Sociedad Honoraria Internacional Phi Theta Kappa donó cinco pavos para el Centro Ozanam, un albergue para las personas sin hogar, para su cena del Día de Acción de Gracias el 27 de noviembre. En la foto (de izquierda) Pat Gore, estudiante de segundo año de estudios para-legales; Jaime Ureña, estudiante de segundo año de contabilidad y presidenta de PTK; Mónica Martínez, estudiante de último año de inglés; José Hinojosa, estudiante de tercer año de ingeniería mecánica; Raquel Ochoa, cocinera del centro, Reynaldo Mendoza, estudiante de tercer año de matemáticas y vicepresidente de PTK; Selina Orive, estudiante de tercer año de biología y secretaria ejecutiva de PTK; Michelle García, estudiante de tercer año de inglés y secretaria de relaciones públicas de PTK; y la Hermana Carolyn A. Kosub, asistente administrativa del centro.*

## Attention Migrant Students

### College Assistance Migrant Program

C

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C.A.M.P. is a federally funded program that strives to provide opportunities for young migrant workers to enter college and receive support services necessary to successfully complete post-secondary education.

C.A.M.P. participants have the unique opportunity to participate in activities that promote academic achievement, along with personal and cultural enrichment. If you are a UTB/TSC student with less than 30 completed hours, you may be eligible for the following services:

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Sandra Lee Rubio, LMSW-Program Director (956) 544-8292

Eddie Ramirez, Recruiter (956) 544 8292



# Dinosaur expert: T. rex not a predator

By Analiz Gonzalez  
Staff Writer

Paleontologist Jack Horner has devoured the myth that Tyrannosaurus rex was a predator.

Horner gave a presentation on his scientific discoveries regarding Tyrannosaurus rex's eating habits before hundreds of students at the Jacob Brown Auditorium on Nov. 13.

Aside from the evidence Horner found to prove that T. rex was a scavenger, he has made discoveries concerning the paternal care of dinosaurs and was the first to find dinosaur eggs in the Western Hemisphere.

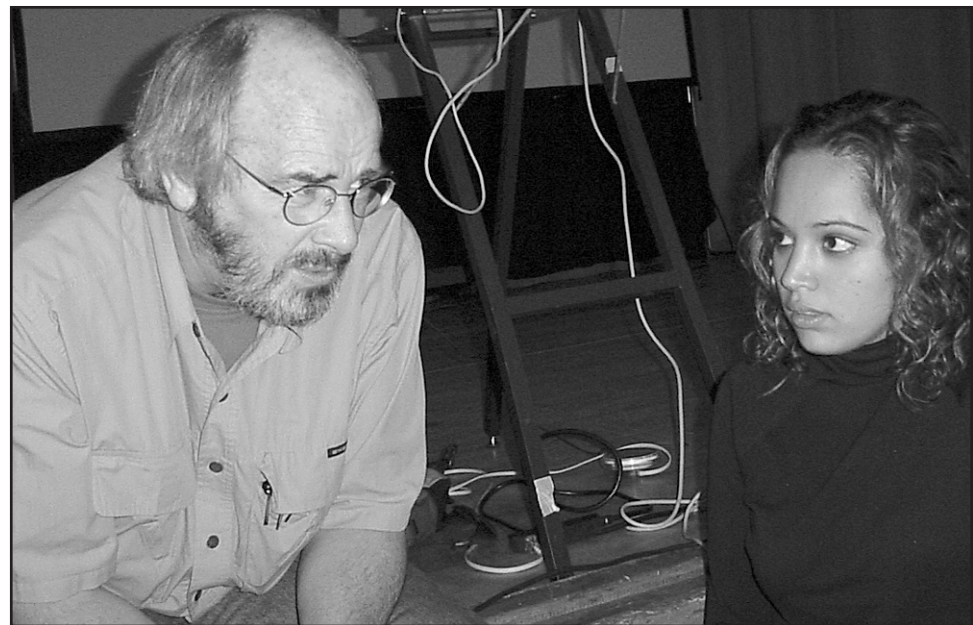
Horner is curator of Paleontology at the Museum of the Rockies in Bozeman, Mont. He studied geology and zoology at the University of Montana. Although Horner did not obtain a formal college degree, he was awarded an honorary doctorate of science from the University of Montana.

"All you need to know about me is ... I like dinosaurs," Horner said. "I work at Montana State University. I dig up dinosaurs. I put them together and once in a while I work on some movies ... 'Jurassic Park,' 'The Lost World,' 'Jurassic Park III' and Walt Disney's 'Dinosaurs.' But I'm not going to talk about dinosaur movies today; I am going to talk about dinosaur science. I'm going to talk about evidence that we have that shows that Tyrannosaurus rex was not a hunting dinosaur.

"The first scientific question that we need to ask is 'How do we know that Tyrannosaurus rex ate meat?' You can say, 'Wow, a T. rex tooth is pointed so a T. rex ate meat.' But that's not good enough. In science, that's not good evidence."

Horner said evidence has been found to prove that T. rex ate Triceratops and duck-billed dinosaurs but there is no evidence that T. rex killed them.

"Tyrannosaurus rex ate meat; there is



VIRGINIA ORTIZ/COLLEGIAN

**Paleontologist Jack Horner answers a question from student Amanda McKenzie of Rio Hondo.**

no doubt about it," he said. "But the scientific question is 'How did Tyrannosaurus rex get its meat.'"

Predators such as lions and cheetahs have long arms, which are necessary in order for them to catch their prey. Tyrannosaurus rex's arms, on the other hand, are so short that the dinosaur would not be able to clap if it wanted to.

"Arms are very important if you want to catch something," Horner said. "T. rex would not be able to catch anything with its hands because they are just too short."

The T. rex's bone structure shows that it was actually a very slow animal.

"Animals that run fast have a short thighbone and a very long shinbone," he said. "That is the proportion that is needed to run fast. A T. rex has a very long thighbone and a shorter shinbone. If a chicken were the size of a T. rex, the chicken would be faster than the T. rex."

"Tyrannosaurus weighs 12,000 pounds and has no arms to catch himself. T. rex would break all its ribs if it fell down even once. If you are a dinosaur that has to kill things to eat, you want to be able to fall down because other animals are going to try to kick you over."

Not only was T. rex's bone structure not built to move like a predator, his brain wasn't designed to function like a predator's brain either. The section in the dinosaur's cranium where its olfactory lobes would be located is much larger than the area for its optic lobes.

"T. rex has the largest sensing apparatus of any animal that ever lived except for one, a turkey vulture," Horner said.

"So what was Tyrannosaurus rex?" Horner asked, "Tyrannosaurus rex was a stinky, nasty-tempered scavenger. That's what I think about Tyrannosaurus rex. Now, what do you think?"

## ASPIRE feast



DAMARIS GLORIA/COLLEGIAN

**Albert Tudón (right), a computer user service specialist for Student Affairs, serves freshman Robert Chavez during the ASPIRE program's early Thanksgiving potluck meal for participants Nov. 22 in the former Student Center. More than 150 people turned out for the event, according to Selena Fleetwood, a program counselor. The staff donated the turkeys and students donated the trimmings. Assisting ASPIRE with the event were staff from Counseling and Career Services and the Learning Assistance Center. There are 250 students in the ASPIRE program, which provides students with services needed to develop both academic and personal skills.**

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# Letter from a Longhorn: A romantic pothole in road to graduation

By Trey Mendez

It's been three months since I left the comfort of South Texas for the rigors of a life 350 miles away. The journey has had its good and bad points. Thankfully, I get the opportunity to drive down to Brownsville every few weeks and try to catch up with my old life. At least, what's left of it.

People are going to read this and think I am the most idiotic person in the world for not being happy at law school, but I have my reasons. To begin with, I've had to deal with the loss of the person who meant most in my life, my former girlfriend. Unfortunately, our relationship didn't last very long after my entrance into law school. It hurt me quite a bit and still does, especially since I expected us to survive anything life threw in front of us. It is equally heartbreaking because this is the very point in my life when I really needed somebody to love me and encourage me to continue pushing myself to the limits of my potential, regardless of what I chose to do with my life. I had it and I lost it. Now, I don't have too much motivation at all and continue to search my soul for reasons to keep on going with this until graduation. I keep telling myself that I need to finish and that when it's all over, it will pay off. But I can't help waking up every morning wishing that

I could have it to do all over again.

There is more to life than accomplishment and prestige. There is also a little something called joy. Perhaps it will find its way back into my life at some point down the road, but right now I feel as if I was dealt a bad hand. A year ago today I had it pretty darn good. I was almost done with undergraduate school, I had a great girlfriend, my buds were close to me and I was happy. At this moment I don't have much of a life and the one I do have, I don't really enjoy. I guess this is part of growing up and leaving the nest, but I didn't think it was going to be this hard. Honestly, though, I can't say that I miss Brownsville. The people in Brownsville that I left behind are what I truly miss, which is why I make the most of my trips home. I go down every three weeks with the silly intention of getting some rest and relaxation away from school. Instead I hang out with all of my friends just enough to keep them happy and just enough to keep me tired. It's all worth it, though, and I wouldn't trade those times for the world. There's something very comforting about coming back home. Even as I write this, I long for the palm trees and the home-cooked meals.

School is wearing me out. At the beginning, I didn't have too much to do and I wasn't studying as much as I should have been. Now that the semes-

ter is coming to a close, the pressure of final exams is creeping its way into my head and I have no choice but to give in and prepare. Recently, a practicing attorney came to our class to give a speech and one of the things that he said was that A students become professors, B students become judges and C students become millionaires. It looks as though I might just end up being a millionaire by default at the rate I'm going. Who wants to be a professor anyway? I'm going to be straight, though; I have thought about packing up and going home on numerous occasions when it all seemed too much to take. Don't get me wrong, the University of Texas is everything I expected it to be and more. It overshadows anything I have ever seen or done, but I still wonder if I belong.

The intellectual challenge is amazing and I have studied harder in the last two weeks than I have ever studied in my entire life. That really says something about what it takes to succeed. Although I would like to finish with the best grades possible for my own satisfaction, I wish I had more things to do that could keep my mind off the

books.

For anyone considering law school, be sure it's what you want to do and that you don't relinquish any of your happiness to do it. You can sacrifice as much time and energy as you want, but don't forget what is really important in life; the things that money can't buy. If you have the opportunity to go to UT, take it. It's the best law school in Texas by far and one of the best in the country. Dean Powers is actively pursuing students from the Valley and encourages everyone interested to apply.

As I ponder what comes next and wish for a piece of my old life to return, I will continue to work toward my modest personal goals. I know a lot of people are expecting me to excel in school and make a triumphant return to the Valley, but it's still two and a half years away from happening. So much can happen in that time. Let's just wait and see where life takes me and where I decide to go with it. The one thing I do know is that I have fallen so far, there is nowhere else to go but up.

*Trey Mendez is a 2002 graduate of UTB/TSC and former sports editor for The Collegian.*

## DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO EARN THE GREEN BERET?



If your answer is yes, then the United States Army has a unique opportunity for you - to become a Special Forces Soldier - a Green Beret. You'll learn from some of the best Soldiers anywhere, and put your new skills to work in duty stations around the world. It takes plenty of hard work to earn the green beret, but the pride you'll feel when you wear it for the first time will make it all worthwhile.

>> So if you're a high school graduate, between 18 and 30, interested in finding out how you can become part of an elite group of proud professionals, call Staff Sergeant Harris at 956-546-1471 or stop by Brownsville Recruiting Station at 1805 E. Ruben Torres Blvd. And check out over 200 ways you can become AN ARMY OF ONE.



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## Medical school on their minds



SONIA MEJIA/COLLEGIAN

*Sandra Martinez-Garvock, director of special programs in the School of Medicine at the University of Texas Medical Branch, discusses admission to the school, available prep courses and degrees at UTB/TSC, and summer enrichment programs during a presentation Nov. 19 in the Gorgas Hall board room. The UTB/TSC Office of Premedical Education Programs sponsored the presentation.*



## Rio

Continued from Page 6

... policy perspective, you have a very, very different attitude on how to address a problem. And sometimes those attitudes clash and they were able to see that as they started addressing some of the different issues [regarding] the river. What they also saw is that ...you can bring them together to start working to resolve a situation."

The group, together with some undergraduate students, organized the E2 Fair at the Student Union on Oct. 19 that targeted children "to make them understand the importance of the environment," Barrera said. The fair included a video on pesticide awareness, T-shirts and puppet shows, with officials from Brownsville, Matamoros and the EPA attending.

For Casquette, the fair was one of the most memorable events of the project.

"We had to start with something simple," Casquette said. "We had to add games that had a message, games that would teach them about

the environment."

Brinkley also enjoyed organizing the fair.

"What I used to do when I lived in Austin was trade-show coordination so I thought I can handle this," Brinkley said. "The other memorable part was the people that we met and my co-workers."

The fellows also took a canoe trip on the river.

"We went all the way up to Falcon Dam and then came back down," Barrera said.

In addition, students in Barrera's statistics class last spring developed and conducted an environmental awareness survey in Brownsville, while the fellows from the SEPA grant and the Cross Border Collaboration Education Project polled residents of Matamoros.

The three fellows must submit the findings of their research to the EPA.

Margie Mancillas, Pre-K-16 Alliance and project director, said the university is working with the EPA to fund a continuation of the project next year.

## Passport to knowledge



DAMARIS GLORIA/COLLEGIAN

*Taeil Yi, an assistant professor of mathematics, talks about Korean customs during a presentation titled "Professor's Passport to Asia" in the Student Union ballroom Nov. 21. The presentation was part of International Education Week and included lectures by Peter Petrucci, an assistant professor of English and Speech, who spoke about teaching in Japan, and Mimosa Stephenson, a professor of English and Speech, who discussed her experiences in China.*



# UTB/TSC

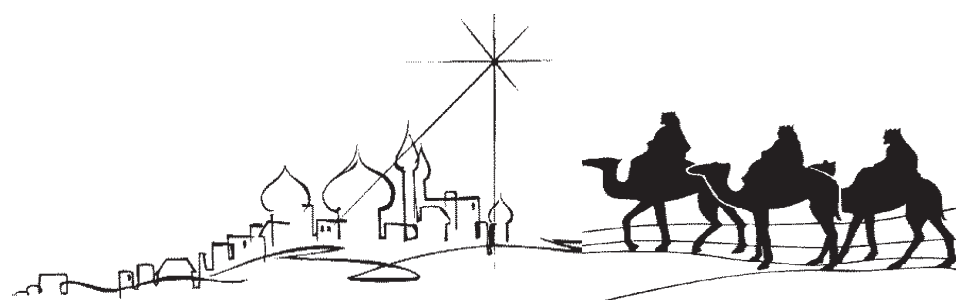
## Presents the

## 2002

# Posada and Pastorela

*Come enjoy the festivities, which include mariachis, piñatas, food and lots of fun!*

*Begins at 6 p.m. Dec. 6 in the Free Speech Area*





**Fees****Continued from Page 4**

three-day [workshop]."

The committee voted to recommend the proposed fee. Vince Solis, director of Student Activities, cast the sole dissenting vote, while Saucedo and student member Monica Villarreal abstained.

Spencer also presented a new \$60 Applied Nursing Skills I Fee for the Licensed Vocational Nursing Program. The one-time \$60 charge would affect 34 students and raise \$2,040 in revenue to defray the cost of educational materials and supplies.

"We have started incurring some expense in the skill lab that we've never had before," Spencer said, referring to the cost of placebo medications and materials used in the lab vs. videos and lectures.

The proposal was motioned by Martinez, and seconded by Solis. The proposed fee was passed unanimously.

The committee also gave the green light to nine exam fees for nursing and emergency medical technology students. The proposed fees are as follows:

--\$17 HESI Nursing Exam Fee, which would generate \$1,530 in revenue.

--\$43 HESI Intro Professional Nursing Exam Fee, which would generate \$3,870.

--\$17 HESI Mental Health Nursing

Exam Fee, which would generate \$1,530.

--\$17 HESI Care of the Childbearing Family Exam Fee, which would generate \$1,530.

--\$17 HESI Care of Children and Family Exam Fee, which would generate \$1,530.

--\$59 HESI Transition to Nursing Practice Exam Fee, which would generate \$5,310.

--\$30 HESI Care of the Client with Complex Health Care Needs Exam, which would generate \$2,700

--\$25 Emergency Medical Technology Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Exam Fee, which would generate \$625

--\$150 Emergency Medical Technology Emergency Medical Dispatching Exam Fee, which would generate \$3,000.

Silva said the Nursing and EMT exam fees were already being charged, and that the department was trying to legitimize the process in order to have it covered by financial aid.

"These courses and these testing fees are already in place ... and it's the company that sets those prices," Spencer said.

Silva further explained, "Basically, we're trying to legitimize that. We have learned that the departments have been doing this and the process had not gone before this committee and really before

we charge a student a fee it should go before this committee so it is added to the tuition and can be covered by financial aid."

Spencer added, "Right now, the way we have been doing it is the student had been paying a money order to the department, then our department pays out for the test themselves."

The Graduate Studies Department also proposed a new \$50 Comprehensive Exam Fee that would affect 200 students and defray the cost of preparing, administering and compiling the results. The comprehensive exams can take the place of a thesis, with the exception of Business and Health Sciences graduate students, officials said.

"The staff of the graduate office is mainly one person, an administrative analyst ... we have a part-time clerk and we have a secretary," Lackey said. "So our office is consumed with this exam."

Lackey also proposed an increase to the Graduate Application Fee, from \$15 to \$30. The fee would affect 700 students seeking entrance to graduate school and generate \$21,000 in revenue.

He said the fee defray the cost of processing graduate school applications.

"This is a major function for the graduate office. ... We are in a situation right now in which the number of appli-

cants is rapidly increasing and the need for more personnel is very apparent," Lackey said.

Committee member Edward Camarillo asked if the fee, along with the Comprehensive Exam fee, would be used to hire another person.

"Our goal is combine these funds to get personnel that can handle this," Lackey responded.

The College of Liberal Arts proposed five new supplemental fees destined to defray the cost of training materials and supplies:

--\$45 Printmaking II fee

--\$95 Advanced Sculpture fee

--\$20 Computer Application in Music fee

--\$8 Percussion Class I fee

--\$8 Percussion Class II fee

"They don't have the resources in the department needed to provide the student with the supplies they need for the class," Silva said.

Silva told the committee that the fees would be presented to the TSC board at its Nov. 25 meeting. After that, the fee proposals will be sent to the UT System board of regents for approval.

The Student Services Fee advisory committee is composed of five student members appointed by the Student Government Association and four faculty/staff members appointed by the president upon the recommendation of the vice president for Student Affairs.

**Board****Continued from Page 3**

capped across from the Student Union at Campus Police.

He also moved to approve an appliance bid from Microfridge for student housing. The \$62,240 bid would provide dormitories with a unit that is a combination of a refrigerator and a microwave. Also recommended was a furniture bid of \$34,893 from Foliot Inc. for armoires.

Oliveira recommended the approval of a contract of \$26,000 with Troika Entertainment, LLC for "Swing," to be performed on April 22, 2003.

All BAPC recommendations were approved by the board.

New District Comptroller Melba Sanchez presented the board with several budget amendments for fiscal year 2001-2002:

--the addition of \$200,672 to tuition from the fund balance

--the addition of \$1,299 to Allied

Health insurance revenue

--the addition of \$1,299 to Allied Health insurance expenses

--the addition of \$10,230 to student service fees revenue

--the addition of \$10,230 to student service fees expenses

Sanchez also recommended budget amendments for fiscal year 2002-2003:

--the addition of 93,000 to insurance from the fund balance

--the addition of \$4,115,348 to the revenue bond net increase

--the addition of \$5,500,000 in revenue from the Greater Brownsville Incentive Corp.

--the addition of \$3,707,964 to transfer to renewals and replacements

--the addition of \$2,800,000 to the Technical Training Center

--the addition of \$1,917,520 to West Campus

--the addition of 41,688 to the Student Union

--the addition of \$1,148,176 to the unexpended plant fund balance

--the addition of \$3,707,964 to transfer from unexpended plant

--the addition of \$3,707,964 to the renewals and replacements fund balance

All budget amendments were approved by the board.

The board approved a new investment policy on first read at the recommendation of John Ronnau, vice president for Administration and Partnership Affairs.

In her report for the Student Affairs Partnership Committee, trustee Dolly Zimmerman reported the new and increased fees recommended by the Student Services Fees Advisory Committee.

Larry Lof, director of Rancho del Cielo, reported on the status of the renovation of the Cueto Building, which the board had originally planned to do over a period of three years. At the recommendation of Ronnau, however, the board decided to accelerate the renovation process to avoid increasing costs.

**The Don't Mess With Texas litter prevention campaign is looking for campaign consultants. This job is perfect for college students! Work from home, participating in weekly projects (mostly on-line) such as answering questions on your generation's preferences, trends and lifestyle. It's part-time (8-12) hours a month. To learn more about this position and to apply, please visit**  
**<http://www.texasneedsyou.org/texas>**



# Growing up changes meaning of Christmas

## He said

By Alejandro Rivera

*Sports Editor*

Christmas comes but once a year, yet we see it creeping up earlier as time goes on. Growing up I would go to the store during the "Holiday Blitz," as I like to call it. It was September and Halloween was all around. October meant Thanksgiving most of the time and mid-November meant Christmas. Now you see all the Christmas decorations in early November or sooner. Stores just skip over Thanksgiving and go straight to the moneymaker--the season of giving. What about Christmas in July? Who was the genius who came up with that?

The Christmas spirit is lost in a whirlwind of commercialism. I admit I too loved receiving toys when I was a child, yet my parents' economic status quickly eliminated that idea. Soon, I looked forward to Christmas as someone else's celebration. You see other people opening gifts and you see the joy in their face. Meanwhile, I was at home sitting in my living room with a ratty artificial tree that looked more like the remains of a burned-down shrub, bringing insult to trees all over the world with just its existence. I sat alone with no gifts and no happiness, just 24 hours of "A Christmas Story."

The Grinch's motive made so much sense to me. Why should all those darn Whos get to be happy? Down with their civilization, Mr. Grinch!

I soon found myself bah humbugging people left and right. I'd become the Scrooge. I was the guy that bummed out everyone at Christmas. I needed to change and I had no help from the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future. I was on my own.

So what did this new-age Grinch do? Well, I began to buy gifts for other people. I would get things for my family and the looks on their faces on Christmas morning would fill a void. So, without sounding like an after-school special, maybe this year you should get your family some gifts and look at their faces when they open them. My motto is, "if you don't expect to get anything you can't be disappointed with what you get." If you get a gift from the dollar store, be happy about it because you could be one of those poor families that never get anything.

I always wished I could be rich so that I could get my family everything they wanted but it hasn't been the case yet. Now I'm content with just spending Christmas with the ones I love. I have my health, my family and my girlfriend and that is all I need. Now I'm happy with the little things like my first Christmas with the woman I love. All I truly desire now is her happiness and maybe a little mistletoe. Be happy and be safe and enjoy life to the fullest without the material possessions. Merry Christmas, everyone.



## She said

By Leslie Robinson

*Staff Reporter*

Christmas is a time for giving, a time for family, and a time to reflect on what life is really about. It's really sad how most people view Christmas as a season that only puts a hole in your wallet. Christmas is more than that, it is a time where I thank God for the birth of Christ and thank him for all the wonderful things he has given me.

Many times I have seen women with babies asking for something to eat. That is when our hearts and minds should react in a giving manner and lend a hand to those in need. It shouldn't only break your heart to see it--do something about it. In order to receive, you must give. For example, today I'm here for you and tomorrow you will be there for me.

When I was little, I would count the days until Christmas so that I could open the presents Santa brought me. That is something I don't blame on anyone--it is simply the way children see things. As long as deep within their hearts they know what Christmas is really about, they can truly look forward to the presents.

At this time of year most of us spend hours shopping for the perfect gifts or the perfect outfit to wear to the Christmas party. But why not take some time and dedicate it to God. That doesn't necessarily mean one must dedicate hours--all one must do is take a couple of minutes to thank God for all he has granted.

Some might feel like the holidays are so lonesome and depressing. If I felt that way, I would probably make the best of it by buying something I really liked and sharing it with someone.

No matter what your view is on Christmas, never forget the true meaning of it and try to make it fun. Try not to let little things, like how many pounds you gain, bother you. No matter what, enjoy yourself because it only comes once a year. I wish everyone a safe and happy holiday. May God bless you.

## Student Soapbox

### When and how did you discover the truth about Santa?

"When I was 8 years old. When everyone went to bed, we saw my mom and dad bringing in these bicycles and in the morning [my parents said] Santa brought them."

--Edward Camarillo  
Senior education major

"I was 4 and I saw my parents putting the presents under the tree."

--Joe Jimenez  
Junior kinesiology major

"I was 6 and my brother told me."

--William Burlingame  
Junior kinesiology major

"I was 6 years old and I went to the garage and I saw all these presents, and on Christmas Day I saw the same presents."

--Nathan Garcia  
Freshman biology major

"When I was [4 years old] and my mom told me."

--Gabriel Moreno  
Junior radiologic technology major

"When I was 6 years old. I just knew."

--Jose Zamora  
Sophomore kinesiology major  
--Compiled by Leslie Robinson



*Relationships 101*

# Anorexic asks for help

By Dr. Mark Goulston

*Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service*

**Dear Dr. Mark:** What step should a 19-year-old female take to overcome anorexia? I know I have a problem, but I still cannot stop myself!

ANOREXIC AT ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

**Dear Anorexic:** It took a lot of courage to just admit you have this problem and to reach out and ask for help. Admitting it and reaching out for assistance is more than half the battle. Don't lose your momentum at finding and getting help and don't try to take on this problem alone. Anorexia is very difficult to overcome on your own.

One reason that anorexia may "work" for you is that it gives you a distraction from bigger concerns in your life, such as feeling like you don't fit in, not knowing what you want to do with your life (even if you know what other people think you should do), or knowing but not knowing how to make it happen. The more these issues are problems for you, the more you may want to avoid dealing with them and the more you may focus on anorexia.

The sooner you get help in dealing with and mastering these challenges of successfully transitioning from young adult to adult, the sooner you will no longer need the distraction of anorexia. You will have much more interest in moving ahead in life than in spinning your wheels and staying stuck in the same place.

There is also a lot of research that says there is some chemical imbalance associated with anorexia. It is not clear if or how it causes it, but often a medication (usually one that works on serotonin such as Prozac, Paxil, Zoloft or Celexa) can help lessen the intensity of your obsessions enough so other kinds of help can work.

To repeat what I said earlier, anorexia is not something to try to fix on your own. You'll just be setting yourself up to fail. Call your nearest medical school's child psychiatry program (for instance, the University of Arizona Medical School in Tucson) and ask them about groups and eating disorder specialists in your area.

Good luck. Now follow through and don't drop the ball.

*Happy holidays from  
the staff of The Collegian!*



## Top 5 Christmas gift ideas

The Collegian recently looked into some Christmas gift-giving ideas for college students. (The price shown does not include taxes). They are as follows:

**Beall's**, Sunrise Mall, Brownsville

Fragrances: Men-Romance, \$39.50 (1.7 oz.); \$59.50 (3.4 oz.)

Women-Romance, \$49.50 (1.7 oz.); \$65.00 (3.4 oz.)

**Best Buy**, 2701 Pablo Kisel, Brownsville

Video games: PS2-Grand Theft Auto: Vice City, \$49.99  
X-Box-Halo, \$49.99

**Blockbuster**, 1805 E. Ruben M. Torres, Brownsville

Best Flick: Austin Powers in Goldmember, \$19.99\* (VHS), \$24.99\* (DVD)

\*Prices listed are an estimate but are not to exceed the amount shown

**BookBee**, 1767 Boca Chica, Brownsville

Top Seller: Chicken Soup for Teachers (paperback and are also available in Spanish), \$12.95

**Circuit City**, 1010 Mexico St., Brownsville

PlayStation 2, \$199.00  
X-Box, \$199.00

## Mystik Sisters

By Leslie Robinson  
and Jamie Standeford  
*Staff Writers*

**Sagittarius (Nov. 23-Dec. 21):** Put your studies and worries aside so you can get really crazy this holiday season. Just make sure not to do the Roger Rabbit dance--it has been out of style since after the last time you went out.

**Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 20):** It's time to buckle down and stop procrastinating. With finals coming up, you will need to do more than daydream about what you're missing on daytime soaps. Just a tidbit--Antonio Lopez-Fitzgerald is still in the dark about his brother's engagement to Sheridan

Crane.

**Aquarius (Jan. 21-Feb. 19):** You're a great person but do remember to think before you do, because you might end up asking for forgiveness later.

**Pisces (Feb. 20-March 20):** You must have really done something to anger the Greek gods for you to have so many recurring bad things happen to you. Try buying a rabbit's foot for some good luck.

**Aries (March 21-April 20):** You need to remember that you are from the Valley, not from Rodeo Drive. Get your nose out of the air; don't you know birds migrate this time of year?

**Taurus (April 21-May 21):**

Couldn't you have found someone else to model yourself after? Lose the suit and tie this year, and quit being so uptight, Ebenezer Scrooge!

**Gemini (May 22-June 21):** I know you should always shoot for the moon but remember: Even if you don't make it, you will be among the stars.

**Cancer (June 22-July 22):** Don't start crying when you open your Christmas present and find a blender with a big bow tied around it; they just want to give you a hand in the kitchen.

**Leo (July 23-Aug. 22):** When you're buying Christmas presents remember you're not shopping for yourself but for others. And if you buy them the nice shirt, maybe they will let

you borrow it.

**Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 23):** I know that this has been a very stressful semester for you, but if you don't slow down, being single won't be your only problem: being locked in a white padded cell will.

**Libra (Sept. 24-Oct. 23):** You will be the best dressed, most liked, funniest and cutest--in your eyes. Did you think in everyone's eyes; oh you did--how cute.

**Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 22):** Have you noticed lately that when you get into a crowded elevator, women clinch their purses and grab their children? It's time to regroup and refocus on what message you want to be sending.



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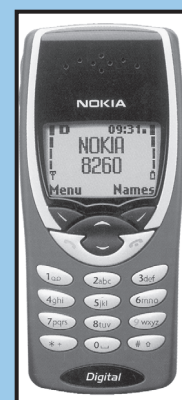
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